

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York

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September 20, 2026

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II



“When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien.
The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you;
you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt:

I am the LORD your God.” (Leviticus 19:33-34)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Time prior to the start of the liturgy is a time for quiet meditation and prayer.
Please welcome Jennifer Coleman, our guest musician this morning.

Prelude Violin Voluntary (10:30)	
Entrance Hymn (10:30)	Hymnal 492
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
The Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Gloria in excelsis (8:30)	BCP 356
Gloria in excelsis (10:30)	S-277

The S-section is located in the front of the Hymnal 1982.

The Salutation & The Collect of the Day	BCP 357
Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	

Please be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson	<i>Jonah 3:10-4:11</i>
When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.	

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But

when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

	The Word of the Lord.	Thanks be to God.
Psalm 145:1-8		Exaltabo te, Deus
<i>The psalm is read responsively by half-verse.</i>		

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Sequence Hymn (10:30)

Hymnal 641

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 20:1-16

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then

going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Frieda Van Baalen Webb

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

BCP 392

Parish Prayer List: David Noller, Jim Cosbey, Darlene, Kim Greene, Nekka Scott, Samuel, Ibrahim, The Rev’d Canon Wadie Far, Beth Regan, Cynthia Lipsius Gembola, Carol Burns, Jim Bigaj, Chris Yeager, Amber B., Halsey VanLew, Jim Russo, Mimy Butler, Father John Paul Boyer, Oliver Patterson, Vincent (Buz) M.

The Peace BCP 360
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

The Parish Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Violin Voluntary (10:30)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Sanctus (10:30)

S-124

Agnus Dei (10:30)

S-161

Communion Hymn (10:30)

Hymnal 343

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

People: Amen.

Hymn (10:30) Hymnal 680

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Violin Voluntary (10:30)

Lectors

September 20

8:30 Jesse Pyle

10:30 L1: Joe Spina

L2: Elaine Richau

PotP: Joe Spina

September 27

8:30 Nancy & Dale Cich

10:30 L1: Bev Barry

L2: Marji Torrell

PotP: Bev Barry

Calendar

9/20 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)

10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

9/23 Wednesday

10AM-2PM Food Pantry

6PM Worship Service with music

9/27 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)

10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

Upcoming Events

9/26 Saturday

11AM A Celebration of Life will be held for both Ellen and Ern Montgomery at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

10/4 Sunday

3PM to 4PM Pete’s Pet Food Pantry

Announcements

Music Director

The Music Committee is pleased to announce that we have a new Music Director! Gail Shepherd has been hired and will start with us in October. She has extensive background in choral music direction, and we were all very impressed with her audition.

Prayer List Reset

The prayer list will be reset as of 10/1. All names will be removed. Please notify the office if you would like to keep someone on the prayer list after 10/1. Thank you.

Donate

To conveniently make a donation, simply scan the QR code below with your smartphone to access our online giving page. As a reminder, the Diocese is no longer covering our online processing fees. If you prefer to pay online, please consider using your bank's bill pay function to donate. It typically has no fees associated with the transaction. Thank you!



Please consider remembering Good Shepherd in your will. It is a wonderful way to continue your support of your parish into the future for generations.

Good Shepherd Staff

The Reverend Frieda Van Baalen Webb, *Supply Priest*
Jessica Thorington, *Administrative Assistant*

Vestry

Dale Cich & Elaine Richau, Wardens;
Pat Lalonde, Treasurer; Nancy Cich, Clerk;
Class of 2026: Charlene Gottfried, Susan Woods
Class of 2027: Marji Torrell, Linda Leighbody
Class of 2028: Bev Barry, Kathy Toth

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The Late-arriving Workers. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57561>